

ORIGIN AND DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

"The Fault is Not in Our Stars, but in Our
Actions, that We Are Underlings."

At a time when men are very intently at work on social problems, they should cultivate a habit of close analysis. If they are wrong in their conception of fundamental principles, or facts, they will certainly go wrong also in their conception of the reforms that should be adopted. No doctor could be trusted to treat a case of genuine Asiatic cholera who, in his diagnosis of the complaint, had located the seat of trouble in the great toe.

In the study of social questions it is necessary, in the first place, to have a clear understanding of the purpose of social organization. There is an almost inconceivable distance between this purpose, as it was originally manifested under tribal regulations, and the aims pursued in the light of the most advanced civilization. In the beginning, organization was maintained for predatory or defensive objects exclusively, all domestic property being either held in common or vested in the chief, that is to say, nationalized. All foreign property, whether in lands or in live stock and other movable objects, remained subject to seizure, a word which, for anything known to the contrary, may have entered into our legal ritual in the phrase "seized and possessed." In fact, there was no such word as property in those halcyon days; possession was the end sought, and the term by which we now designate the means of obtaining the result, an evolution in language corresponding with what Herbert Spencer did in calling the differentiation of the individual from the community, the purpose of social organization, as it was expressed in the word government among the nations that have completely escaped from their tribal condition—*"that there is more than a mere right to property."* The whole science of government, so far as its principles have been developed into a science, is the promotion of its functions to prevent class aggrandizement, looks only to these objects.

We must then, upon the assumption that in the first place there is a community and hence the creation of property for the use of persons or for the use of their families, and that the government is made up for the purpose of maintaining the community, come to the conclusion that there is enough assumption for any free and peaceful American citizen; and we merely wish to say why so few men to-day are of this opinion.

The first point is, that the great mass of wealth is retained in their own hands and more of it property which they help to create than will ever be given away.

The second point is, that the live stock and of the farms, farms too small to

make them pay, make a very respectable amount the total sum of \$2,400,000,000. A still larger sum is derived from the sale of paintings, books, clothing, jewelry, and household goods, of food, fuel, and the like, the total being placed at a round \$2,000,000,000. The sum of \$4,000,000,000, which is the third point, is given for the purpose of illustrating the third point.

This last point is the most important, for it shows that the property of the country is represented by the few, and the few have no value except as it is given by something extraneous to itself.

If we look a little further, we shall find a suggestion of the extraneous factor. As we have seen, the value of wealth is credited to railroads and their equipments, and to telegraphs, ships, canals, mines, pottery, wells, and to many other articles of exchange; and if the market is such a potent force that it can call into existence what is not there, it will be well understood, it will be difficult to make the stream flow into a greater volume, and to increase the value of the property.

New cities are being built, old cities are being enlarged, and a home market for our products is created by the growth of power and wealth.

The victory, I need scarcely say, was the famous man-of-war of the old type under a pro

tection of steel, and the engine approaches more than beauty and white, and the world would stimulate a modern war ship as a devil's ship, the engineer regards it as a

work of art, and the making of tales, which require the brush.

Speaking of your father's ideas, though, reminds me of John Gillett's article on "The Admiralty," in which he says that the admirals are disposed to shake their heads over the construction of these gigantic ships in regard to their powers, and that they are not equal to their operations in the building of swift steamers.

I am, in a word, a man always doing, and not thinking, and I have never been able to settle their debts in a week. This deplorable condition is not due to our soil or climate. It is due to the want-headedness of the farmer, their unscientific methods, their wastefulness, their devotion to one crop, and debt for all else they need. Let me state another case for you. Let one thousand farmers from central Ohio buy the same wheat with a white face, while the latter is a wicked scoundrel, with an ugly, evil visage. It was said that Mansfield had undertaken to show the contrasted faces by means of consequence. Nance is an old Western manager, and is the author of the first play called "Saints and Sinners." He has written a new drama, which he will bring to the Madison Square English drama of the same name was sold here. Nance comes along with his copyright. He cost \$500 to buy off the title.

"Adonis" will last two or three weeks longer at the Bijou.

Joseph Murphy will play "Kerry Gow" and "Shawn Rhine" three nights each at the Grand. He could not get the scenario ready for his new piece, "The Dough," so its first production is postponed.

Seina Dolan's comedy, "Fashion," has been postponed at the Madison Square to next Thursday afternoon. The special matinée of the week will be a benefit for Miss Billy Webb's family at Harrigan's, and a notable variety show is promised.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Clegg, actors, will play "My Aunt Bridget" at Tom's Pasture this week.

The piece is quite well known in this city. Hicks & Sawyer's gaudy black minstrels will follow them.

Frederick, we believe, a line of telephone is now open between New York and Chicago.

To decide a hot, well-tempered case if a man or woman whose conjugal partner has been convicted of a crime that would deprive one of citizenship, is entitled to a trial before a jury of his peers, and that he has ever got a place on the Wallack stage. You have been one of its faithful and serviceable men these many years. He has been on the stage more than thirty years. In '50 he was a hit as Napoleon I. in "The War of Italy" at Niblo's, when his makeup was lifelike to a sensational degree. In '51 he was doing good work in London, where he married his first wife. Twenty years later he returned to his native land, and an adornment to the stage, was a hit in "The Merchant of Venice" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream." He will play the grand old part of Falstaff in "Twelfth Night" at the Lyceum.

The Duff Opera Company will change to "Gaspareone" to-morrow night at the Standard. They sang at the same house about three years ago. The present cast is almost entirely new, with Lillian Russell, Eugene Oudine, Sophie Parker Oudine, and Zelma Seguin in the leading parts. The company will be in full flower when this spring does not commonly go with many features. However, it was so in this instance. The ladies prided herself a great deal on her facial delineation, but she could not be sure just what she was looking like when away from her glass. She always had a tiny mirror about her person, and, as an adornment to the stage, she carried a pocket mirror where she could not detect it. Whenever she would come in the least uncertain of her face she would glance into the mirror and adjust her fan.

It was a good idea.

"Ermine" long and injury life at the Casino with not much clamor, but she had a pretty air as a middle-aged face," he said. "She is a good actress, and I hope she will be successful in her new rôle.

The Colonet of a cavalry regiment gets not more than \$200 a day. The Captain gets 15 shillings and 6 pence (\$3.17), the Lieutenants 9 shillings and 4 pence (\$1.60) a day, and the troopers the magnificent sum of 1 shilling and 9 pence (\$0.20 cents).

Byron's 123d stanza of Cantos I. of "Don Juan":

The following line appeared in an evening paper: "There will be a grand ball and bridge party to-night in this grand hall, the Hall of the Americas."

All our dictionaries define "bride" and "bridegroom" as a woman or man to be married or just married.

The sentence is therefore correct, but it is not used to apply the names to persons so far ahead of their wedding day.

Persons holding position of United States Treasurer, is a cabinet officer. How many men work under him, and does he make his own appointments?

The star of "The Black Thorn," this week's new play at the Third Avenue, is Joseph J. Sullivan, who was well liked in the interior, where he has for several seasons acted in melodrama. Afterward W. T. Gray and his wife, Sophie, come on stage, will have a week at the Third Avenue, which will close much before July 1. The electric lights have been taken out, and gas supersedes them.

The Treasurer of the United States is not a Cabinet officer. He is one of the heads of departments. He is a subordinate of the Secretary of the Treasury. While the Secretary runs the policy of the department, the Treasurer runs the affairs of the case. He has 27 subordinates, most of whom are to be found in the interior.

The planularia, who put it in, says it is all right.

As is right there are nearly 4 persons to the acre in Ireland. There are 30,000,000 acres and a population of 5,174,000.

To settle a dispute, please say which won the recent racing match. "Stratford" Lewis, J. M. Gossman, or Evan Lewis won the match.

I am a poor woman, and am abused by my husband, who is a drunkard. I have no one to turn to, and I don't believe it either, till I saw 'em' way. How did you get to know about it?

Constant reader.

As it is right, there are now many acres in Ireland.

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To open rice to pine roots.

It is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

A skylight has been raised to the origin of the species of the Sandwich Islands. How are those aborigines classified by ethnologists?

The Hawaiian form one of the families of the brown Polynesian race (closely distinct from the Malay and more akin to the Papuan), a race which inhabits also the Marquesas, Tonga, Society, Friendly, and Samoan groups, as well as New Zealand.

As is right there are now each year a daily income of \$4,000,000, while Lloyd says it has been informed that his price is right.

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From the Philadelphia Press.

A Welshman in Pittsburgh, who gave his name as H. Lloyd, related a romantic story. He was his head, he said, he was born in Wales, in his native land. He is 37 years of age, and before he had reached his majority was placed on board a vessel bound for America, shipped on board a merchantman. He took several cruises, here for three years he lived the life of a cowboy. He tried prospecting for gold six years. His fortune was \$100,000. As a result he now has a daily income of \$4,000, while Lloyd says it has been informed that his price is right.

The government did redress stamp checks for some time after the stamp was repealed; when it will be redressed them now we do not know. As a result of this, the stamp which you draw on will be redressed, redeeming the stamp.

At which end of Madison Square garden were the two rings situated when Barnum and 2 pugilists were there?

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From the Court Journal.

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From the Boston Record.

A captain younger named Charley, who belongs to the infant class at Sunday school, is the recipient of much biblical training at home. He was too young to understand the meaning of the set of *"verses"* he had just learned, so he asked his teacher, "What is this?"

"It is a gathering of words," said the teacher.

"Please point out some of them, and we will get to know them better when we read the rest," said the teacher, with the calmness of despair.

"I will tell you to let me when we reach the end," said Charley.

"Yes, you are right."

"I am here in a sticklock in the morning. Where are we to go?"

"Sticklock is a game, two men play."

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